

"To Our Pride In the Past, and Our Hope for the Future, Let Us Add Vigorous Work in the Living Present."

R. M. WHITE & SON, Props. — L. M. WHITE, Editor.

MEXICO, AUDRAIN COUNTY, MISSOURI, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1921

Vol. 63 No. 9

Judge Botts, Audrain's Representative Outlines Road Bill for Bond Issue

Those Who Have Read The Draft Say It Is The Most Equitable Plan Thus Far Advanced--
Highways For Every County.

Judge W. W. Botts, representative to the State Legislature from Audrain County, has drafted a road bill to be introduced at the special session of the Legislature to be called soon to consider the expenditure of the sixty million dollar road bond fund, that is considered by many who have read it as coming nearer being equitable in its plan in every particular than any so far suggested.

Lack of space forbids our reproducing the draft of the bill in full. However we will give a brief sketch of it.

Judge Botts favors placing one fifth of the bond issue money in the counties touching St. Louis and St. Louis county and Kansas City and Jackson county. This is because there is so much traffic there and that so many important roads radiate from those points.

The remaining four-fifths would be distributed throughout the state on the basis of county population, assessment of property and state road mileage. The roads would be interlocking county seat roads extending into every county in the state, and he plans that the property touching all of these highways and which are directly benefited by them would pay proportionately. This benefit sum would not exceed over \$3,000 a mile and where valuations were less would not be that much. On this basis Judge Botts states that every county in Missouri would be able to secure good highways. Some would get more mileage than others but the general distribution would be satisfactory when the entire plan was understood.

Under his plan Audrain county would receive sufficient funds to build between 80 and 90 miles of road at about \$10,000 a mile without counting Federal aid. These roads would connect with similar roads in other counties so the entire system would be interlocking.

The bill further provides that these roads be taken over and maintained by the state. Each county will be a unit for construction, and work will start in each county on highway building at the same time. The bill further states the legislature shall designate the highways to be constructed through every county, and that the state provide a separate fund in the state treasury for each county and all that fund must be expended in that county. The construction of the roads will be left to the state highway commission who will investigate and ascertain the best material for each county.

Still Another 20-Gallon Tank Still Story

(Fulton Sun.)

Columbia police have found another still over in that town and it is said to be one of the best ones ever brought to the town but they found it in sections, a one part at one negro home, a second part at another and the 20-gallon tank at another. And a fourth negro, who had none of the parts in his possession, claim the still belongs to him. Manuel Bennett is his name and he said he bought the still in Fulton, paying \$50 down and promising to pay \$50 more. The still was brought to Columbia last week.

If the negro's story is true, we wonder who had the still in Fulton and why they sold it? The fact that the outfit was found in scattered sections and was not set up for use makes the officers doubt whether they can prosecute any person for having a still for the manufacture of liquors in their possession. No one had a still, but in three different homes, some distance apart, sections of the outfit were found.

Mr. and Mrs. Gray Wilson and small niece, Callie and Henrietta McCue, attended the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. C. A. McCue of Auxvasse the 18th. Mr. Wilson also attended a session of the Missouri Presbytery held in Auxvasse that day.

Died in West.

S. I. (Squire) Wincott, formerly of this city, died not long since in Ancon, Mont.

BEN DOBYNS IS ALMOST DROWNED ON SATURDAY

Ben Dobyns of this city, was almost drowned Saturday night at 11:30 when the horse he was driving to a buggy, tripped while crossing a bridge on the cemetery road, about 2 miles west of Mexico, and fell into the creek dragging the buggy and Mr. Dobyns into the water.

Fortunately there was a cable across the stream, heavily weighted with drift-wood. Mr. Dobyns, regardless of a blow on the head which cut a gash three inches long and to the skull, caught this and pulled himself from the creek.

The horse was drowned and the buggy demolished. He hurried to the nearest farm house, a half mile distant, where he was given a warm bath and dry clothes. The heavy rains had made the creek exceptionally deep at this point and that he was not drowned is considered unusually fortunate. He is recovering slowly and it is hoped there will be no serious after-effects. Being a cold night his plunge into the water and exposure afterward was a severe strain. His clothing was frozen to his body when he reached the farm house.

Men Are Released.

The two white men and one negro arrested Friday by local officers upon the receipt of a message from a C. & A. conductor were released Saturday, when Chief of Police Wallace received a telegram to that effect from City Marshall Butts, of Slater.

MRS. HILDEBRAND FUNERAL SUN. AT B. CITY CHURCH

Mrs. John J. Hildebrand, 50 years old, wife of one of Audrain county's leading farmers residing near Benton City, was buried Sunday from the Benton City Christian church at 2 o'clock by the Rev. Wood pastor of the Rush Hill Community church.

Mrs. Hildebrand at April 14th in this city following an operation. She leaves besides her husband, one son, John Henry Hildebrand, to mourn her death. Two other children had died before her. She was Miss Rosa A. Winkler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Winkler of Rush Hill, and born in Monroe county. Besides her parents she is survived by two brothers, Charles Winkler, and John Winkler, of California. Also two half sisters survive her, Misses Fannie and Mary Boling.

She married John J. Hildebrand Feb. 2, 1889. She was a splendid Christian character and joined the Rush Hill Community church in 1915. Besides being a member of a prominent county family she was popular with a wide circle of admiring friends who join her many relatives in mourning her death.

The Ledger joins in extending deep sympathy to the bereaved.

THE SEVENTH

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., April 18.—New state senatorial districts were laid out recently by Gov. Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of State Charles U. Becker and Attorney General Jesse W. Barrett to take the place of the present districts, long denounced by Republican orators as a gerrymander, which was laid out by Democratic state officials twenty years ago. The new districts will stand, it was stated, upon the vote cast for State Superintendent in 1916, twenty Republican and fourteen Democratic districts. Upon this basis, under the vote cast for resident in 1916, the political aspects of the districting would be about an even break.

Seventh District.—The counties of Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Monroe and Ralls; population 109,453.

BIRTH OPPOSES KELSO PLAN FOR HIGHWAYS

COLUMBIA, Mo., April 15.—William R. Hirth author of the much-discussed dirt roads bill introduced at the recent session of the legislature, said he would have nothing to do with the state road movement being organized by I. R. Kelso, president of the so-called Missouri Federation of Commercial Clubs, and A. Lyman Donlin, secretary-manager.

Hirth, who is editor of a Missouri farm paper, said Thursday he would not attend the state convention which Kelso has called at Jefferson City the first week of the special session of the legislature, and for which Kelso and Donlin are seeking to collect a fund of \$10 for each of the 9,486 school districts in the state. Hirth said he did not believe in a movement of that kind. Gov. Hyde has denounced the raising of a road fund for propaganda purposes.

Hirth says he has not changed his view, incorporated in his road bill, that the road fund ought to be apportioned among the counties for local highways, and that gravel and earth roads ought to be built with the money instead of trunk-line brick, concrete or bituminous roads.

He said the 70,000 farmers of his organization endorsed this idea, and that he favors spending the money under the supervision of the state highway commission.

General Price Decline Will Follow Cut in Steel

WASHINGTON, April 19.—Drastic reductions in prices announced by Judge Elbert H. Gary of the United States Steel Corporation may precipitate a second country-wide wave of price cutting, it was believed here recently.

"At least, cheaper steel will tend to bring down prices to the consumer of scores of commodities of every day use," said Ethelbert Stewart, price expert, Friday. "It may be some weeks before the buying public will experience benefit, but the result is certain if the lower steel prices are maintained."

There are scores of points at which steel prices affect the cost of living, although the average individual seldom buys it directly. Rents and building costs, now the subject of complaint, are directly affected by steel prices because rails and bars are largely used now in construction work, even in private dwellings.

Railroads and street car lines are probably the largest single buyers of steel. High rail prices increase operating overhead and necessitate high freight and passenger rates.

MEXICO MAN GIVEN INDORSEMENT FOR CONSULAR POSITION

A dispatch from Washington stating that President Harding had informed Senator Spencer of Missouri that he will get his Federal appointment also contained the fact that Fred A. Boutell, father of Mrs. Harry Hawley, of this city, had been indorsed by Spencer for U. S. Consul to the West Indies.

In the list this was the only name given from Mexico or Audrain county. The president told Spencer the state would receive its quota of these appointments.

Raise Gas Rates.

The Missouri Public Service Commission has allowed the Missouri Utilities Co., of this city an increase on their gas rates. These take effect April 23, this year. The company asked for an increase from \$1.60 to \$2.10 on the first ten thousand feet and were allowed \$1.85. They asked for an increase from \$1.30 to \$1.60 for over ten thousand feet and were allowed \$1.55. The commission stated they did not allow the full increase asked because the price of coke and gas oil had fallen since the request was made. Kirksville gets \$3.10, Jefferson City \$2 with 50 cent service fee, Louisiana City \$1.80 and St. Joe \$1.60 with 50 cent service fee for their gas.

HAS your coal pile reached that stage where if you want to fire the furnace, you have to use the sugar tongs?

More Bargains

Mexico Merchants again offer the people of Audrain and adjoining counties some splendid money-saving opportunities in the Ledger this week.

The consumer has learned that it pays to read the advertisements of the live merchants of a community because it means they can buy more intelligently and save more money.

This was never truer than it is today when the markets change so often. The merchant who advertises is not only helping his own business but is doing the public a service by helping them shop more economically.

Shop from the advertisements in the Ledger and make your money get you greater buying results.

L. Hutchins White

FARMERS AFTER COLD STORAGE PLANT HERE

The Audrain County Farm Clubs, members of the Missouri Farmer's Association are doing everything they can to secure a cold storage plant for this city which is to be located in this section of Missouri by their state organization.

Moberly is also after the plant. No decision has been announced regarding its location but it is quite likely that the matter will be definitely settled within a few days.

If Mexico should not get this plant we understand an assembling plant for the shipping of poultry and eggs will be built here and that later a cold storage plant will be erected.

J. E. YEARSLEY DIES AT HOME IN K. C., KAN.

J. E. Yearsley, son of Mrs. John Bass of this city, died at five o'clock Wednesday morning, at his home in Kansas City, Kans. Heart trouble caused his death. No arrangements for the funeral have been learned, except that it will be held at Kansas City, Kans.

Mr. Yearsley had been employed by the Chicago and Alton Railroad for the past fifteen years. His wife and five children survive him.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bass left on the noon train for Kansas City, Kans., to be present at the funeral.

The Ledger joins many other friends of the bereaved in extending sympathy.

Baby Boy Dies.

Robert Max, born July 2, 1919, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Willingham of south Mexico, died at five o'clock Wednesday morning from a complication of troubles after an illness of several weeks. He is survived by his mother and father and a brother, Nelson. The funeral will be Thursday afternoon at 2:00 from the home, by the Rev. W. C. Cowart. Robert Max was an exceptionally bright child, loved by everyone who knew him, and his death will be learned with regret by the many friends of the family. The Ledger joins in extending deepest sympathy to the bereaved.

Spencer and Doctor Wrestle.
Ray Spencer of Laddonia wrestled with Tommy Doctor of Kansas City last week. Spencer won the first fall. Doctor gained the second fall. The third fall was keenly contested for by both, and was gained by Doctor. It was a fascinating match witnessed by a large crowd at Laddonia.

Spencer has volunteered to wrestle in a preliminary match before the Jake Reed contest at the Missouri Drummers Association meeting here in June.

J. D. Armstrong, Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at Haywood, California, is visiting relatives in Mexico. He is on his way to Atlantic City, to attend the United States Chamber of Commerce Convention to be held there April 27 and 28.

Mrs. Settle and Mrs. Smith returned from Centralla Saturday night after spending a few days with their brother, Mr. W. R. Price.

Mrs. Moore, of St. Louis, formerly of this city, is the guest of Mexico friends and relatives.

8TH GRADES TIE IN MUSIC MEMORY CONTEST

The final act in the Music Memory Contest took place Tuesday night at the High School Auditorium. The pupils of the sixth, seventh and eighth grade in both schools have been preparing for this all winter. Forty-two pupils sat upon the stage, with paper and pencil in hand about to write the names of composition and composer as soon as each record was played. Miss Wallace played twenty records, chosen from the fifty, with which the contestants were familiar.

The eighth grade in each school made the highest score and as a result won the handsome picture given by the Mexico Music Company and the Monday Music Club respectively. To discover the boy and girl who could make the highest score, five more records were played. The result showed four boys and four girls from Central all with 100 points to their credit. Lots were drawn and Harry Richardson and Charlie Woods were awarded fountain pens while pretty pins were given to Frances Robinson and Josie Adkins.

The Music Memory Contest is a recent development in teaching music appreciation, and Mexico is in the front rank in adopting the plan this year. Great credit is due to Miss Maude Wallace for her progressive, untiring industry and zeal in making the contest so attractive and educational.

The following scored perfectly. South Side: Rose Eleanor Wright, Ruby Sward, Dorothy White, Josie Adkins, Virginia Harrison, Mandolin Hampton, Roberta Raney, Lanelle Waltham, Elizabeth Botts, Reible Hammond, Lessman Powell, Gene Ankrum, William MacFarland, Charlie Woods, Harry Scott; from Central: Katherine McKinney, Henrietta Wright, Nina Hoffes, Dorothy Bradley, Jessie Johnson, Frances Robinson, Anna Frances Richardson, Coleman Staltz, Landon McIntyre, Harry Richardson, Carl Cleveland and Ruth Hoffes.

EVIDENCE OF ARSENIC FOUND IN STOMACH

(Moberly Democrat.)

The anxiously awaited verdict of the Kansas City expert as to the result of his examination of "Tink" Broadus' stomach has been received, and this verdict give no aid or comfort to the enemy who cut short his days, as the physician found arsenic in the stomach.

This mystery case which has held public attention almost to the exclusion of everything else, locally, since the finding of the body floating on Forest Park lake at Moberly is now reaching out into a wider area and getting into metropolitan newspapers.

Today a representative of the Kansas City Post was in Moberly getting all possible information and procuring pictures of scenes pertaining to the trail and other spots in connection with the tragedy.

Brother Dies in West.

Eldon H. Sloss, of Denver, Colo., a brother of Mrs. Frank Parker, of this city died Tuesday in Denver, Colo., the body will be taken to Auburn, Ky., for burial. The Ledger joins the many friends of Mrs. Parker in extending deepest sympathy.

C. OF C. ADOPTS RESOLUTION ON THE BOND ISSUE

The Audrain County Chamber of Commerce at its weekly luncheon Thursday noon at the Hotel Hoxsey, adopted a resolution which deals with the expenditure of the sixty million dollar bond issue for roads to be acted upon shortly by a special session of the legislature.

The resolution is as follows:

WHEREAS, the people of the State of Missouri have written into the organic law of the state their promise of a bond issue for the expenditure of sixty million dollars for "all the year" roads; and the members of the Missouri Legislature are by their oaths pledged to the people to support the constitution of the state, and the legislature in discharge of its obligations and in fulfillment of its oath must and of necessity will, carry out such constitutional provision:

Now, Be It Resolved by the Audrain Chamber of Commerce, that we recommend to the Legislature: that the expenditure of the proceeds of the sale of the bonds and the construction of all roads upon which such expenditure is made, shall be wholly under the control, direction and authority of state officials; and that the first monies so expended shall be upon the construction of roads that will link together county seats of a continuous chain of counties, and in such manner and along such route as will receive the approval of the federal government and the federal appropriation for road construction.

F. A. Morris, chairman of the Good Roads Committee of the Chamber of Commerce presented the resolution and Judge C. A. Barnes spoke upon it and explained its purpose. W. R. Jackson and Judge E. A. Shannon spoke upon certain phases of the resolution.

The meeting opened with a sing by the entire membership led by Captains Moore and Stoy, of M. M. A. This is a new feature and was enjoyed by everyone. Ed C. Offutt reported on the plans for Clean Up Week next week.

President E. Y. Burton presided and there were over 50 present.

Mayor J. W. Gallaher, former president of the Chamber of Commerce, was given an enthusiastic reception upon his entrance to the dining room.

WILL BUILD AN AIRDOME HERE AND RIVOLI THEATRE

The Liberty Theatre Company will open an airdome the latter part of May on the Hassen lot, just opposite Larsen's studio on Promenade street. Moving pictures will be shown and the Airdome will also be equipped with a stage to handle vaudeville acts.

It will have a seating capacity of over one thousand. An orchestra will furnish the music. Comfortable wide seats will be installed. Prices will be 50 cents for children and 10 cents for adults plus war tax.

High class program feature pictures and comedies will be shown nightly, except Sunday. This Airdome will be operated until the cool weather in the fall at which time the Rivoli Motion Picture Theatre will be ready for occupancy. This theatre will not be constructed on quite the elaborate scale of the Liberty but will be cozy and homelike with every convenience, where the best program pictures of Universal, Vitagraph, United, Robertson-Cole, Independent, Fox, Pathe and other noted producers will be shown and will seat 600 persons.

Mr. Whitney of the Liberty Theatre Company stated in an interview that the Company realized the need and demand in Mexico for a popular priced theatre and consequently would open the Airdome during the hot summer months and the Rivoli Theatre in the early fall. He stated that the location of the Rivoli would not be made public for the present, due to the stage of negotiations for the property in which the house would be located.

Work on the Airdome will begin May 1st, and be rushed to completion. Work on the Rivoli will begin later in the summer, but in ample time to have it completed and ready for occupancy when the Airdome is closed. Admission prices at the Rivoli will be the same as the Airdome.

District Governor Coming.

Everett W. Hill, district Governor for the Rotary Club, will be in this city Friday and at a 6:30 dinner at the Hotel Hoxsey formally present the Mexico Rotary Club with its charter.

WOMEN CAN END ALL THE WARS

CLEVELAND, April 15.—Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, venerable New York woman suffrage leader, scheduled to speak at the mass meeting of the National League of Women Voters convention threw her "set" speech away and begged the women voters to end all war.

For fifteen minutes Mrs. Catt held her audience spellbound by the intensity of her appeal to end all wars.

"The persons in this room could put an end to wars," she said. "There isn't an audience in the world that won't applaud him who talks of world peace. Everybody wants it and everyone does nothing."

"I am for a League of Nations. A Republican league of any kind," she continued. "The Republicans are in. I believe it the duty of everyone who wants the world to disarm to compel action at Washington."

"Let us make a resolution, let us consecrate ourselves to put war out of this world. It is necessary that we rise out of shallow partisanship; that we act as women. Let us tell Mr. Harding and the senate that we expect action. Let us be silent no more! Let us join hands with everyone who wants to put this terrible war business out of the world. Men were born with instinct to slay. It seems to me God is giving a call to the women of the world come forward, to stay the hand of men, to say 'No, you shall no longer kill your fellow men.'"

Farmers Using Papers To Advertise Sales

JEFFERSON CITY, April 18.—That farmers are becoming the largest and most consistent advertisers of the weekly and small city newspapers is the statement made by a number of publishers in North Central Missouri during the past several months. The farmers who at one time went in strong for large sale bills and dodgers are now reducing the amount of this printed matter and are spending the money for newspaper space, declaring that it is a more satisfactory method and that they get better results. Some have abandoned the poster style of advertising altogether.

One newspaper in Paris recently carried more than 1000 inches of advertising from its farmer patrons. Papers at Buncheon, Jefferson City, Fulton, Montgomery City and other cities of this section also carry a large volume of farm advertising. It is not restricted altogether to auction sales, but farmers use the columns of the newspapers to advertise everything of a salable nature on their farm advertising exceeds that of the home town merchant.

AUTOMOTIVE ASSOCIATION IS ORGANIZED

The Fulton Automobile Dealers' Association was organized at a meeting following a 6:00 o'clock dinner Monday. The following officers were elected: President, Harry Gilbert; vice-president, Austin Crenshaw; treasurer, Hickman Payne; directors, Harry Gilbert, Austin Crenshaw, Hickman Payne, B. P. Beamer and B. H. Jameson. A secretary is to be chosen by the board of directors, and will be someone outside the association who is not an automobile dealer. The object of the association is to promote the automobile business in Fulton and Callaway county, and to better the automobile service of the town and county. The word "automotive" was included in the name of the association in order to include dealers in accessories as well as cars. —Fulton Gazette.

Miss St. John Sells Business.

Miss Ruth St. John has sold out her beauty parlor to Mrs. Ida May Johnson of Camp Point, Ill. Mrs. Johnson will take possession next June. Miss St. John will then go to Hannibal for a short visit, after which she will go to Seattle, Washington, where she will be retired from business. Miss St. John says that "Darling" was not in the bargain.

Mrs. J. T. Wood who has been visiting Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Blatter returned Monday to her home in Fulton.